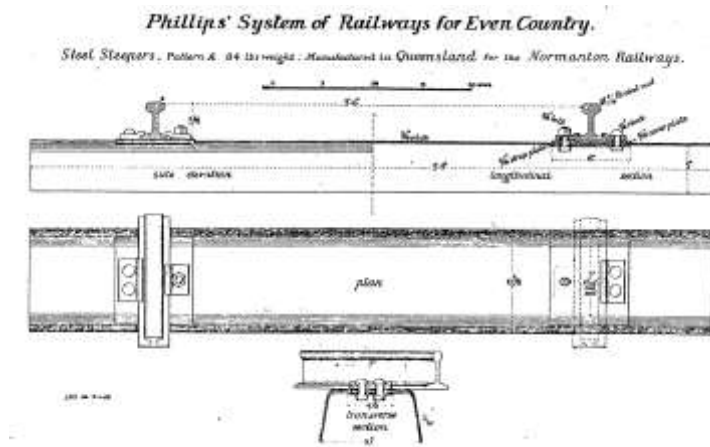


Normanton to Croydon Railway

– The Track



CEREMONY REPORT

on the presentation of an

ENGINEERING HERITAGE MARKER

on 10 September 2019

at Normanton Railway Station

and

on 14 October 2019

at Engineers Australia, Brisbane

Prepared by

Engineering Heritage Queensland

CONTENTS

1. Introduction

2. Invitation

3. Program

4. Interpretation Panels

5. Acknowledgement

6. Photographs

7. Attachments

1 Introduction

The Normanton to Croydon Railway was awarded an Engineering Heritage Marker by Engineers Australia on 12 December 2017.

It has taken a while to arrange a ceremony to celebrate this award.


With the location of the Normanton to Croydon Railway being at the top end of Queensland, it was decided to have two award ceremonies – one at Normanton and one at Brisbane.

The Normanton ceremony held on the 10th September 2019 was attended by some 14 guests and arranged by Ken Fairbairn, the Queensland Railway Officer in Charge, Gulflander based in Normanton. The event was attended by the Mayor of Carpentaria Shire Council Jack Bawden, locals and staff of QR.

The Brisbane ceremony held on the 14th October 2019 was attended by some 39 guests arranged by EA Division office in conjunction with QR. The event was attended by representatives from EA, QR, descendants of George Phillips and members of the public.

2 Invitation

The railway line Normanton to Croydon in North Queensland built in 1891 utilised a radical departure from established practice in the building of pioneer railways. It was recently recognised under Engineers Australia's Heritage Recognition Program.



The event will recognize the innovative work of George Phillips in the design and construction of the Normanton to Croydon Rail line in North Queensland in 1891. An replica interpretative panel will be unveiled which will celebrate the engineering heritage value of this pioneering rail line. There will be a brief presentation on the technical aspects of the work of George Phillips and the challenges he had to address to achieve the construction of the last isolated line of Queensland Rail still in use today. There will be a display of the highlights of a ceremony held in Normanton to celebrate this achievement. Light refreshments will be available at the conclusion of this ceremony.

Date
14 / 10 / 2019 - 12:00 pm to 05:00 pm (AEST)

Registration Closes
13 / 10 / 2019 05:00 pm

Venue
Engineers Australia Hawken Auditorium
447 Upper Edward Street
Spring Hill, Queensland, 4000

Cost
Registration
Member Rate: \$0.00 (\$0.00 excl. GST)
Student Member Rate: \$0.00 (\$0.00 excl. GST)
Non-Member Rate: \$30.00 (\$27.27 excl. GST)

Key Speaker(s)
Andrew Barnes and Allan Churchward

Host(s)
Engineering Heritage, Queensland

Event Contact
Contact: Jonathan Espinoza
Phone: 1300 653 113

is website, you consent to Engineers Australia's use of cookies. Details and instructions on how to disable cookies are set out in our [Cookies Policy](#)

3 Program

Event Name: Engineering Heritage Marker Ceremony
Normanton to Croydon Railway, Brisbane Ceremony
Date: 14 October 2019
Time: 12.00pm – 1.00pm
Location: Keays Room, 447 Upper Edward St, Spring Hill QLD 4000

Time	Action	Responsible
1200	EVENT COMMENCES	
1200	Welcome – VIP guests and apologies Acknowledgment of Country	Andrew Barnes
1206	National perspective of Engineering Heritage Marker ceremonies	Mark Lendich
1209	Local view of importance of ceremony	Andrew Barnes
1214	Unveiling of replica Interpretation Panel	Andrew Barnes, Mark Lendich, QR Rep
1216	Recognition of the ceremony in Normanton	Andrew Barnes
1217	EHAQ presentation – history and engineering heritage outlined in the IP (see copy of presentation attached)	Allan Churchward
1227	QR Presentation on George Phillips – engineer who designed and built the system (see copy of presentation attached)	Greg Hallam
1237	EA or QR invites VIP to give a thank you speech	
1240	Representative of the descendants of George Phillips acknowledges EA recognition	
1245	Ceremony close	
	Photographs	
	Refreshments available	
1300	EVENT CONCLUDES	

4 Interpretation Panels

The original Interpretation Panel and marker have been installed at the Normanton Railway Station breezeway with easy access for the public.

5 Acknowledgement

Engineers Australia thanks the descendants of George Phillips for their contributions in particular Albert Jeays (grandson of George Phillips) who passed away in 2018.

Thanks also go to Ken Fairbairn (in Normanton) and Greg Hallam (Historian) from QR for their contribution.

6 Photographs

Photographs from the Brisbane ceremony can be seen here.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/engineersaustralia/albums/72157711341227887>

Photographs from the Normanton ceremony can be seen here

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/engineersaustralia/albums/72157710819880817>

7 Attachments

1. Presentation from Allan Churchward (Engineering Heritage Qld)
“A celebration of an engineering achievement”
2. Presentation from Greg Hallam (QR Historian)
“A Prolific Individual George Phillips”